

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION # 5: CAN I GET PRE-AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT?



TRAUMATIC INJURY CLAIMS:

If you suffer a work-related traumatic injury that requires a medical examination, medical treatment, or both, your supervisor is **REQUIRED** to authorize such examination and/or treatment by issuing an Authorization for Medical Examination and/or Treatment (CA-16) to you except as outlined below. The CA-16 authorizes treatment for 60 days from the date of issuance, unless OWCP terminates the CA-16 sooner.

Coverage is for non-invasive procedures – xrays, MRI's, office/ER visits, hospitalization, etc. (This form may be used for occupational disease or illness only if your employer has obtained prior permission from OWCP.)

1. The CA-16 should be issued by your supervisor:

- a. Within four hours after receiving your completed Notice of Traumatic Injury and Claim for Compensation/COP (CA-1).
- b. After you have provided your supervisor with the full name and address of your attending physician or medical care facility.
- c. NOTE: Your supervisory may give your attending physician verbal authorization for covered procedures in emergency situations only. You, or an authorized representative must submit a completed CA-1 as soon as possible after such authorization. The completed CA-16 will then be provided to you within 48 hours.

2. You will not be provided a CA-16 under the following circumstances:

- a. If you provide notice more than one week after the claimed injury.
- b. If you do not provide a qualified health care provider's name and address for the CA-16.
- c. If your supervisor has factual evidence that clearly substantiates the injury will not be covered based on an automatic disqualification - i.e. not a civil employee, occurred off premises/not in performance of duty, intoxication, willful act/misconduct.
- d. If you file a Notice of Occupational Disease, CA-2.

OTHER SITUATIONS:

Your health care provider will be responsible for obtaining medical authorization for such services as non-emergency surgery, physical therapy and durable goods equipment. Additional information concerning medical authorization can be found on the Department of Labor (DOL) website – See

<http://www.dol.gov/esa/regs/compliance/owcp/CBPOutreach.htm>.

**Questions? Contact the ARC WC Specialist at (304) 480-8229
or email questions to WorkersComp@bpd.treas.gov**